United Nations A/58/885–S/2004/720

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
8 September 2004

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 30
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-ninth year

Letter dated 3 September 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 3 September 2004, addressed to you by Reşat Çağlar, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 30, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 3 September 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to our letter dated 18 June 2004 (A/58/844-S/2004/507, annex), I have the honour to refer to the two letters dated 26 July 2004 and 27 August 2004 addressed to you by Greek Cypriot representatives in New York and circulated as documents of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/58/858-S/2004/597 and A/58/880-S/2004/700, respectively), which yet again contain allegations of violations of the "airspace of the Republic" and "of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia", and to bring to your kind attention the following:

In response to such false and pretentious allegations, I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. Furthermore, it should be emphasized that allegations of so-called violations of the flight information region or violations of air traffic regulations are invalid, as the civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only competent authority to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services.

As stated in our previous letters, such allegations are based on the false and illegitimate claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This claim by the Greek Cypriot side is divorced from the existing realities in Cyprus, namely, the existence of two independent States, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within and above its respective territory on the island.

Attempts by the Greek Cypriot representatives, through often-repeated false claims, to confer legitimacy upon an illegal administration will be futile as long as the Turkish Cypriot people refuse to bow to its writs. What would indeed be conducive to a better climate on the island would be for the Greek Cypriot side to stop arrogating to itself rights and responsibilities it does not legally have, and to cease all hostilities towards the Turkish Cypriot people.

These two letters are yet another example of the Greek Cypriot policy of distracting attention from the glaring fact that the Cyprus problem remains to resolved due to the Greek Cypriot rejection of your settlement plan on 24 April 2004. Instead of inventing issues with a view to creating a smokescreen before the real issues in Cyprus, what is expected of the Greek Cypriot administration is to stop campaigning against the declared will of the European Union in particular, and of the international community in general, to end the isolation of the Turkish Cypriot people.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 30, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Reşat **Çağlar**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus